



**OREGON ASSOCIATION OF MINORITY ENTREPRENEURS**

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January 21, 2003

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Confirmed**

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WIC Docket No. 03

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing in support of and to encourage your speedy review and approval of Qwest's application to the Federal Communications Commission to offer long distance services in Oregon. The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs serves Oregon Statewide as an organization committed to promote and develop entrepreneurship and economic development for ethnic minorities and thereby reduce racism and discrimination.

As users of long distance, local services, the internet and cellular phone services we see value in the option of being able to buy all of these services from one vendor — whether that company is Qwest or not. With true competition in long distance services, we believe the costs for all services will decrease and that we will see a continued increase in service quality.

The ability to communicate cost effectively is extremely important, not only for today but for the future. If we have multiple carriers to choose from, the cost savings will enhance our opportunity for continued success. Approval of Qwest's long distance application in Oregon is an important step toward more local competition, the delivery of better service, and lower prices.

Since your approval last month, nine other states in the west are benefiting from Qwest's ability to provide long distance services and we don't want Oregon to be left behind.

We encourage your timely review and support of the application that was filed January 15<sup>th</sup>, and let the true competition begin.

Sincerely,

Samuel Brooks  
President and Chair of the Board  
Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs

Cc: Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communication Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

